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accurate position can be found if photographic charts can be taken showing this star. Professor BAILEY has been notified of this discovery and if the star is still bright enough, he will doubtless obtain photographs showing its position and spectrum.

"The similarity of these two new stars is interesting; first, since it has proved a means of discovering one of these objects, and secondly, because if confirmed by other new stars it will indicate that they belong to a distinct class resembling each other in composition or physical condition.

"The star was approximately of the 7th magnitude photographically on July 10, since it was about equal to *Cord. G. C.* 20910, magnitude 6.9, whose spectrum is of the second type. The nearest catalogue stars are *Cord. G. C.* 20940, magnitude 8, which has a spectrum of the first type, and *Cord. G. C.* 20926, magnitude $8\frac{3}{4}$, which has a spectrum of the second type. The new star lies nearly midway between these two."

EDWARD C. PICKERING,

Director Harvard College Observatory.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., U. S. A., Nov. 9, 1893.

THE DISCOVERY OF ASTEROIDS IN 1893.

Thirty-four minor planets were discovered in 1893: eight by WOLF of Heidelberg, twenty-five by CHARLOIS of Nice and one by BORELLY of Marseilles. WOLF and CHARLOIS used the photographic method, first successfully employed by WOLF in 1891.

The number of minor planets now known is about 380. The rate of their discovery by photography in the past two years has been so rapid that the computers are no longer able to make the computations for determining their orbits properly. We believe that Dr. WOLF has for this reason desisted from making further special search for them. Dr. WOLF's decision is to be commended. The cosmical questions with which the asteroids may be connected will certainly be nearest solution if the computations for those already discovered are kept up to date.

W. W. C.

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES UPON MISS DOROTHEA KLUMPKE.

Mlle. KLUMPKE, who has just gained the degree of Doctor of Mathematical Sciences at the Sorbonne, is the first lady who has obtained that distinction. The full title of her thesis was "Con-